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RUCNASE/ASEAN MEMBER COLLECTIVE

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STATE FOR EAP/MLS, G/TIP, AND PRM FOR SONIA DENTZEL

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: [ASEC](#) [ELAB](#) [KCRM](#) [PHUM](#) [PREL](#) [SMIG](#) [VM](#)

SUBJECT: VIETNAM ANTI-TIP PROPOSALS FOR G/TIP FY 2008 FUNDING  
CONSIDERATION

REF: 07 STATE 161287

1. (SBU) Post recommends the following two anti-trafficking in  
persons (TIP) project proposals for G/TIP FY 2008 funding:

I. APPLICANT: Save the Children U.K. (SCUK) - Vietnam Office  
REQUESTED FUNDING AMOUNT: US \$241,682 (two-hundred forty-one  
thousand and six-hundred eighty-two dollars)  
PROJECT TITLE: Promoting the Legal Framework and Law Enforcement on  
Human Trafficking  
PROJECT DURATION: Two Years  
PROPOSAL ABSTRACT: At the October 2007 GVN Review Workshop on the  
National Plan of Action to Combat Human trafficking in Women and  
Children, Deputy Prime Minister Truong Vinh Trong noted that Vietnam  
had experienced a rise in women and child trafficking cases between  
2005 and 2006 and spoke of a "doubling" of cases. He also noted the  
close link between trafficking and poverty and the special  
vulnerabilities which children and women face in terms of being  
trafficked and forced into "prostitution, illegal marriages and  
illegal labor." SCUK sees the importance of the improvement of the  
GVN's Penal Code, development of a Law on Trafficking and the  
ratification of the UN Convention on Transnational Organized Crime  
(UNTOC) and its TIP Protocol. Moreover, SCUK sees the need for a  
comprehensive approach for the protection of children. Such a  
system would identify vulnerable children and protect them from harm  
associated with trafficking and unsafe migration. The proposal  
comprises a two-year project to promote and support the development  
of a strong legal framework on human trafficking on the one hand and  
build the capacity of law enforcement and child protection  
personnel at different levels on the other for both child and  
victim protection. Expected results by the end of year 2 include:  
a) promoted government and public awareness for a strengthened TIP  
legal framework in Vietnam, including development of a new TIP law,  
revision of the penal code and ratification of international TIP  
protocols; and b) developed capacity of GVN law enforcement and  
child protection agencies on protections and work with TIP victims  
and vulnerable children.

II. APPLICANT: The Asia Foundation (TAF) - Vietnam  
REQUESTED FUNDING AMOUNT: US \$250,353 (two-hundred fifty thousand  
and three-hundred fifty three dollars)  
PROJECT TITLE: Strengthening the Legal Framework to Combat  
Trafficking in Vietnam  
PROJECT DURATION: 18 months  
PROPOSAL ABSTRACT: TAF proposes to implement an 18 month, \$250,353  
project in close partnership with the GVN Ministry of Justice (MOJ),  
the National Assembly (NA), and the Vietnam Women's Union (VWU) that  
will facilitate drafting and passing the first comprehensive  
anti-trafficking law in Vietnam. This project will take advantage  
of the GVN's increased commitment to combating all forms of TIP and  
TAF's years of experience and close working partnerships with  
governmental and non-governmental organizations to establish a sound  
legal framework for combating trafficking consistent with

international standards. Lack of a comprehensive anti-trafficking law in Vietnam has led to a confusing array of legal instruments that deal in a piecemeal fashion primarily with one aspect of the problem, sex trafficking of women and children. Many other egregious forms of trafficking are not addressed at all. The result is that those charged with preventing trafficking in their communities, assisting victims, and bringing traffickers to justice are ill-equipped to carry out their responsibilities or to make significant progress in stopping trafficking. TAF has designed the proposed project in close consultation with the MOJ, the VWU, and key members of the NA. The project will facilitate a series of consultations with key stakeholders in provinces with high rates of trafficking to enable the MOJ to assess the legal dimensions of the problem, foster national discussion, and generate informed recommendations on a new law. At the same time, the project will increase awareness of NA delegates on the need for such a bill and encourage support for ratification. Measurable results will include:

- a) increased capacity of the VWU, and NGOs to analyze laws and make recommendations on a comprehensive anti-trafficking law; b) increased understanding of key stakeholders of the complexity of trafficking in Vietnam and the legal provisions required to address it; c) specific and comprehensive recommendations for provisions in a draft law; d) a comprehensive anti-trafficking bill drafted; e) increased commitment of NA delegates for a comprehensive anti-trafficking law; and f) a broad-based constituency informed about and sensitive to trafficking issues.

12. (SBU) Post has forwarded both proposals and budgetary materials to the G/TIP Funding Opportunities e-mail address. Post recommends full funding of both of these strong proposals and stands ready to assist G/TIP in the evaluation and due diligence process. Post thanks G/TIP for consideration of these proposals.

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